

Nicole Bishopric
Chapter 12 and WebQuests
6/21/2010

When reading through chapter 12, Learning Together Virtually, in “E-learning and the Science of Instruction,” by Clark and Mayer, I don’t see any direct correlation between the content and WebQuests. In this section Clark and Mayer discuss Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL). Such learning occur with chats, blogs, Wikis and online conferencing. Webquests are generally used for independent practice for the learner to explore and gain further information about a topic. This may be placed in a “Learning Individually Virtually” section in the future.

Clark and Mayer question whether this type of learning is effective in the learning process. Others may question whether WebQuests can be used as an effective means of individually learning about a topic. WebQuests are designed to motivate the learner to interact and explore information provided about a topic and complete various tasks with the specific directions. Often there are links to resources the learner can refer to to gather more information to help in completing the task(s).

Knowing that we will soon be learning about Twitter as a tool for group learning, similar to blogs or Wikis, I wonder if this tool will be added to the next edition just as blogs and Wikis have been added to this second edition. From what I have began to learn about Twitter is that it can be used to discuss a topic of choice and other learners can add what they have learned or determine what more should be researched depending on the direction the discussion is going in. With the multiple users contributing to the discussion new perspectives may emerge as well as new questions.